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The Greek alphabet

- collapse of the Mycenaean civilization (around 1200 BCE)
- writing disappeared from Greece (dark ages)
- late ninth to early eighth century BC a script based on the Phoenician syllabary was introduced, with unneeded consonant symbols being reused to represent the Greek vowels (=Greek Alphabet)

The Attic-Ionic dialect

- the most influential Greek dialect has been the one spoken in Athens, called Attic.
- Attic and Ionic—the form of the language spoken mainly in the Greek city states directly across the Aegean Sea from Athens—exerted significant influence on each other as the preferred forms of the language for oratory and philosophical prose, eventually producing a dialect now called Attic-Ionic.

The Greek Alphabet

Α	α	Α	Alpha
Β	β	Β	Beta
Γ	γ	Γ	Gamma
Δ	δ	Δ	Delta
Ε	ε	Ε	Epsilon
Ζ	ζ	Ζ	Zeta
Η	η	Η	Eta
Θ	θ	Θ	Theta
Ι	ι	Ι	Iota
Κ	κ	Κ	Kappa
Λ	λ	Λ	Lambda
Μ	μ	Μ	Mu
Ν	ν	Ν	Nu
Ξ	ξ	Ξ	Xi
Ο	ο	Ο	Omicron
Π	π	Π	Pi
Ρ	ρ	Ρ	Rho
Σ	σ	Σ	Sigma
Τ	τ	Τ	Tau
Υ	υ	Υ	Upsilon
Φ	φ	Φ	Phi
Χ	χ	Χ	Chi
Ψ	ψ	Ψ	Psi
Ω	ω	Ω	Omega

Greek Alphabet-Classical Attic Pronunciation

Α α	Β β	Γ γ	Δ δ	Ε ε	Ζ ζ	Η η	Θ θ	Ι ι	Κ κ	Λ λ	Μ μ
ἄλφα	βῆτα	γάμμα	δέλτα	ἔψιλόν	ζῆτα	ἦτα	θῆτα	ἰῶτα	κάππα	λάμβδα	μῦ
alpha	beta	gamma	delta	epsilon	zeta	eta	theta	iota	kappa	lambda	mu
a	b	g	d	e	z	ē	th	i	k	l	m
[a, a:]	[b]	[g]	[d]	[e]	[zd/dz]	[ɛ:]	[tʰ]	[i, i:]	[k]	[l]	[m]
Ν ν	Ξ ξ	Ο ο	Π π	Ρ ρ	Σ σ ζ	Τ τ	Υ υ	Φ φ	Χ χ	Ψ ψ	Ω ω
νῦ	ξεῖ	ὀμικρόν	πεῖ	ῥῶ	σίγμα	ταῦ	ὑψιλόν	φεῖ	χεῖ	ψεῖ	ὦμέγα
nu	xi	omikron	pi	rho	sigma	tau	upsilon	phi	chi	psi	omega
n	ks, x	o	p	r, rh	s	t	u, y	ph	kh, ch	ps	ō
[n]	[ks]	[o]	[p]	[r]	[s, z]	[t]	[y, y:]	[pʰ]	[kʰ]	[ps]	[ɔ:]

Sample Text in Greek

Ὅλοι οἱ ἄνθρωποι γεννιοῦνται ἐλεύθεροι καὶ ἴσοι στὴν ἀξιοπρέπεια καὶ τὰ δικαιώματα. Εἶναι προικισμένοι με λογικὴ καὶ συνείδηση, καὶ οφείλουν νὰ συμπεριφέρονται μεταξύ τους με πνεῦμα ἀδελφοσύνης.

Ancient Greek Inscription



[The Beginning of Hellenistic Koine](#)